



PATENT
NON-FINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/002,126

Confirmation No. 2011

Applicant : Akira KUBOTA et al.

Filed : December 5, 2001

TC/A.U. : 1773

Examiner : Leszek B. Kiliman

Dkt. No. : IPE-013

Cust. No. : 20374

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TC 1700

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 7, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 4, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2003. A petition for a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.